AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-56. (Cancelled)

57. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing ICT1024 expression in a mammalian tissue, comprising administering an inhibitor that interacts with ICT1024 DNA or RNA and thereby reduces ICT1024-expression, wherein the inhibitor is an siRNA, an shRNA, an antisense RNA, an antisense DNA, a decoy molecule, a decoy DNA, a double stranded DNA, a single-stranded DNA, a complexed DNA, an encapsulated DNA, a viral DNA, a plasmid DNA, a naked RNA, an encapsulated RNA, a viral RNA, a double stranded RNA, a molecule capable of generating RNA interference, or combinations thereof.

58. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 57, wherein the tissue is breast tissue, colon tissue, prostate tissue, skin tissue, bone tissue, parotid gland tissue, pancreatic tissue, kidney tissue, uterine cervix tissue, lymph node tissue, or ovarian tissue.

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 57, wherein the inhibitor is a nucleic acid molecule that is double stranded and has a length of about one hundred base pairs or less.

61. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 57, wherein the inhibitor comprises an siRNA or an shRNA or a nucleic acid molecule encoding an siRNA or an shRNA.

62. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 57, wherein the inhibitor comprises a nucleic acid molecule encoding a siRNA or an shRNA, and wherein the nucleic acid molecule is associated with a liposome, a cationic polymer, a receptor-mediated delivery system, a plasmid, a cosmid, a bacteriophage, or a viral vector.

63. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 62, wherein the viral vector is a retroviral or adenoviral vector.

64. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 57, wherein the inhibitor is an siRNA or an shRNA, and wherein the inhibitor causes post-transcriptional silencing of ICT1024 in the mammalian tissue.

65. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 57, wherein the mammalian tissue is human tissue.

66. (Cancelled)

67. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 57~~37 or 59~~, wherein the inhibitor is an siRNA molecule and is delivered in the form of a naked oligonucleotide.

68. (Cancelled)

69. (Cancelled)

70. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting *in vivo* expression of ICT1024 by administering siRNA that specifically binds and inhibits ICT1024 to a patient in need thereof.

71. (Cancelled)

72. (Cancelled)

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the patient is a human.

74. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 70[[36]], wherein the nucleic acid molecule is double stranded and has a length of up to 25 base pairs.

75. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 57, wherein the inhibitor is a nucleic acid molecule that is double stranded and has a length of up to 25 base pairs.

76. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 70, wherein the siRNA is part of a complex comprising a cationic polymer.

77. (Cancelled)

78. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 57 or 70 ~~any one of claims 37, 59, or 70~~, wherein the siRNA comprises an antisense strand that is complementary to the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21 or SEQ ID NO: 22.

79. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 33 or~~ claim 57, wherein the inhibitor is administered directly to the tissue.

80. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing ICT1024 expression in a cell, comprising administering an inhibitor of ICT1024 polypeptide, DNA or RNA, wherein the inhibitor is a nucleic acid composition and reduces the expression of the ICT1024 polypeptide, DNA or RNA.

81-83. (Cancelled)

84. (Currently Amended) An antisense nucleic acid molecule for targeting ICT1024, wherein the antisense nucleic acid molecule comprises a sequence that is complementary to a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21 or SEQ ID NO: 22.

85. (Currently Amended) A double-stranded nucleic acid molecule comprising the antisense nucleic acid molecule of claim 84[[81]] and its corresponding sense strand.

86. (New) The method according to claim 57, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises at least one modified nucleotide.

87. (New) The method according to claim 70, wherein the siRNA comprises at least one modified nucleotide.

88. (New) The antisense nucleic acid molecule according to claim 84, wherein the antisense nucleic acid molecule comprises at least one modified nucleotide.

89. (New) The double-stranded nucleic acid molecule according to claim 85, wherein the double-stranded nucleic acid molecule comprises at least one modified nucleotide.

90. (New) The method according to claim 86, wherein the at least one modified nucleotide stabilizes the nucleic acid molecule.

91. (New) The method according to claim 87, wherein the at least one modified nucleotide stabilizes the siRNA.

92. (New) The method according to claim 86, wherein the at least one modified nucleotide protects the nucleic acid molecule against degradation.

93. (New) The method according to claim 87, wherein the at least one modified nucleotide protects the siRNA against degradation.

94. (New) The antisense nucleic acid molecule according to claim 88, wherein the at least one modified nucleotide stabilizes the antisense nucleic acid molecule.

95. (New) The double-stranded nucleic acid molecule according to claim 89, wherein the at least one modified nucleotide stabilizes the double-stranded nucleic acid molecule.

96. (New) The antisense nucleic acid molecule according to claim 88, wherein the at least one modified nucleotide protects the antisense nucleic acid molecule against degradation.

97. (New) The double-stranded nucleic acid molecule according to claim 89, wherein the at least one modified nucleotide protects the double-stranded nucleic acid molecule against degradation.